

HOUSE RESOLUTION 249

By Eldridge

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mr. Thomas B. Rouse, Sr., of Pinson.

WHEREAS, it was with deep sadness and a profound sense of loss that the members of this General Assembly learned of the passing of Mr. Thomas Rouse; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Rouse was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a lifetime resident of Pinson, Mr. Rouse graduated from Pinson High School in 1951 as the Valedictorian before bravely serving his country in the United States Air Force at Lowery Field in Denver, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, before retiring in 1989, Thomas Rouse served with acumen and alacrity as a rural mail carrier of Madison County for thirty-seven years, in which position he earned the respect of his residents and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, a hard worker who always stayed busy, Mr. Rouse farmed in the Pinson area, raising cotton, corn, soybeans, and cows, and also rendering astute service as the President of the Trico Prolix Liquid Feed Company; and

WHEREAS, affectionately nicknamed the “Mayor of Pinson,” Thomas Rouse was a pillar of the community who laudably served on many civic organization boards; he was a charter member of the Pinson Ruritan Club and served as the local chapter’s President and district officer, as well rendering proud service as the National President of the Ruritan Club in 1985; and

WHEREAS, additionally, he was a distinguished member of the Jackson-Madison County School Board from 1964-69; the Board of Directors of the Jackson-Madison County General Hospital, standing as Chairman for a term; and the board of the Pinson Utility District, serving as chairman and helping establish the water and sewer services to Pinson; and

WHEREAS, despite his busy schedule, Thomas Rouse was an active and devout member of Pinson United Methodist Church, which he served faithfully for many years as Lay Leader; and

WHEREAS, a true friend and neighbor, the avid gardener generously shared the bounty of his harvest with people; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rouse was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Rouse enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Helen Wooley Rouse, who preceded him in death, and will be missed by his daughter, Vicki Scarbrough, and her husband, Mike, and son, Tommy Rouse, and his wife, Gay Lynne; he was the beloved grandfather of four: Cody and Blake Scarbrough and Savannah and Jordan Rouse; and

WHEREAS, he will also be fondly remembered by his brothers, Donald Rouse and J.E. Mullis, and his sister, Inez Duncan; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his wife, Mr. Rouse was also preceded in death by a daughter, Thomasa Lynn Rouse, and a brother, Guy Mullis; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rouse leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Mr. Thomas B. Rouse, Sr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our deepest sympathy and offer our heartfelt condolences to the family of Mr. Thomas Rouse.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.